

## MEDIA ADVISORY

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CHICAGO, IL (September 24, 2017)—As authorities assess the impact of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico, the Puerto Rican Agenda is acting on the urgent call to send emergency supplies (i.e. water, batteries, flashlights, baby food/formula, feminine products, etc.) to assist with distributing basic resources to island residents in the hurricane aftermath. After successfully raising \$67,000, including \$9,000 in pledges, the Puerto Rican Agenda directed a portion of funds to purchase supplies for immediate delivery on Monday, September 25.

The Puerto Rican Agenda coordinated efforts with Congressman Luis V. Gutierrez of the 4<sup>th</sup> District, Mayor Rahm Emmanuel, CEO of United Airlines, Oscar Muñoz, and Custom Trucking Company to send a planeload of supplies from to O'Hare International Airport at 7:00 AM on Monday, September 25. The cargo plane and delivery trucks are underwritten by United Airlines and Custom Trucking Company, respectively.

Acting in concert with the Puerto Rican Agenda, Carmen Yulín Cruz, Mayor of San Juan, will personally receive the shipment and ensure supplies are distributed to shelters, rescue centers, and hospitals in the hardest hit areas following yesterday's meeting of the Puerto Rico's mayors to establish a unified plan for distributing emergency supplies across the island.

The Puerto Rican Agenda will continue to collect funds to send a second planeload of emergency supplies through the Puerto Rican Agenda Hurricane Emergency Relief Fund:  
[http://boricuahumanrights.org/?page\\_id=6588](http://boricuahumanrights.org/?page_id=6588).

The leadership of the Puerto Rican Agenda met on **Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 7:30 PM at the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, 2456 W. Division**, to discuss next steps for additional fundraising efforts.

For more details on fundraising efforts, please see the full attached press statement.

*The Puerto Rican Agenda is an unincorporated organization of local Puerto Rican leaders that influences policy for the advancement of the Puerto Rican community in Chicago. Over the past two decades, the Agenda continues to develop and execute a community-driven vision for the Humboldt Park Area, where most Puerto Ricans in Chicago live, and Paseo Boricua, a business and entertainment district on Division Street between California and Western.*